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Saturday, January 2, 1904.

How does your new leaf look by this time?

Very few boys who smoke are likely to see any sense in the custom of swearing off.

The trouble with some men today is that they were really too happy yesterday.

The Board of Pardoners appears to have unanimous consent to commute the sentence of Lynch.

Just as people are trying to be happy at the opening of the new year, bill collectors are sure to come around.

Mr. Bryan is coming back, but, fortunately, after his European experience, his talk may be on something new.

For the breaking of resolutions concerning habits, the habit of making such resolutions is chiefly responsible.

Entering upon a new year, and a leap year at that, young men may feel that the time is appropriate for them to learn to say no.

When Chicago gets over being stunned, it will doubtless be ready to boast of having had the worst of all theater horrors.

For several weeks now you will be sure that you will do in 1904 a number of things that you were once sure you would do in 1903.

Having conscientious scruples against breaking good resolutions on the first day of the year, a number of people put off making them until today.

The coal company, catching the spirit of the season, is desirous of showing good will toward the striking miners by giving them a nice holiday trip to Colorado.

We suppose Alfred Austin means well in springing a new "poem" on the world at this happy new-year time, but he displays poor judgment in doing so, even poorer than in writing the poem. But there is one compensation; the telegraphic transmissal of it will make him write when he sees them.

A curious record has been compiled by a Pittsburgh paper, of the train and stage robberies of the past year. It is not an especially alarming record, but it is not a good showing, all the same, for a civilized, law-abiding country. At the same time, these crimes and their results were below the record of the year before, a little; and for this little let us be duly thankful.

The report of County Clerk James, showing the receipts of his office to have been \$25,674.32 during the past year, was made with commendable promptness, and it is a good statement for the county. The amount thus received is a gain over 1902, although the incorporation of Murray cut off some revenue. Altogether, the business of the County Clerk's office is conducted in an admirable manner, and Mr. James is a model officer.

The record of ore and bullion settlements at the banks in this city during the month of December was a splendid one; the total reached above two millions—to \$2,052,100, this being merely the daily sales as the money passes through the banks, and not including the product of the independent smelters. It is a splendid showing, and marks a pace that the new year is expected to keep well up with, all the indications being favorable thereto.

It is said that Joseph Chamberlain will visit Australia, no doubt for the purpose of stirring up enthusiasm for his Imperial customs federation scheme. It would be a strong move on his part to do this, for there can be no doubt that he is able to arouse great enthusiasm there for the plan he has in mind. Mr. Chamberlain is an able politician, and a very forcible speaker; he is out of office, is free to devote his whole time to his propaganda and is making remarkable headway with it.

New York is to make a rigid inspection of all its places of amusement, with a view to their safety in case of fire. It is a good thing to do, and it would be a good thing also in other places where New York. Of course, in Chicago there

will be such inspection, and it will be most rigid. The only possible good that can come from such a terrible disaster as that at the Iroquois theater is to put the public and the authorities on their guard, and incite the officials to zeal and activity in enforcing every possible safeguard in other theaters and public halls. And that is the programme now, very properly so.

THE LIGHT AND STREET-CAR MERGER.

The merger of the street railway company with the light and power company is now complete, and the new organization, which is to be known as the Utah Light and Railway Company, will elect officers for the combined company today. The appropriateness of the merger is generally recognized, and it is conceded that the public interests can be better secured by the consolidation than by the two companies separately. At the same time, it is commonly felt that the capitalization is too high, and that exactions based upon returns for computed investment may be too severe.

But in the absence of intelligent legislation on the subject of corporations, the public must stand whatever is demanded. There may come a time, however, when there will be a regulation of these matters on a reciprocal basis, which will yield revenue in proportion to the returns on computed capitalization. Then the tendency to expansion of capitalization beyond the actual value represented, may be curbed.

It is to be noted, however, that this consolidation is no worse in this respect than is warranted by the common practice; indeed, it is less expensive than many, both East and West, and it should be given a fair trial on the undoubted merits of the merger, before any special criticism is leveled upon it. The combined company, when its plans are fully perfected, will be capable of doing great service for the people of this city, and undoubtedly will wish to do its best to earn and keep the public's good will.

THE HORROR COMES HOME TO US.

But little progress is making in the quest for the explanation of the awful fire in the Iroquois theater, Chicago. A number of arrests have been made, and there is evidence that extraordinary efforts will be exerted toward a search for the bottom facts. A satisfactory conclusion, however, may never be reached as to the real cause. But it is evident that a cold at the public for requiring spectacular plays, as a prominent actress delivers, or a protest against the helplessness of the dazed audience and claims that if the people had kept their heads the loss of life would have been small, do not help.

There is uncertainty day by day as to the actual number of the victims; this being caused by the fact that there were some removals of bodies before the official count began, and by the possibility that some bodies are still missing. The latest count of the dead is 582. It is an awful total! And though the vast majority were Chicago residents, the metropolitan character of the city is seen in the wide distribution of the residences of the dead. Even Utah does not escape. Mrs. Lulu P. Alexander, her daughter aged 8, and her son aged 4, being among the victims, the news of this coming in a dispatch from her husband. The family resided in Springfield, and the dreadful fate of the three brings home to all of us in an especial manner the horror of that awful afternoon.

TRADE, BUSINESS, AND FINANCE.

The opening of the year finds Utah in a most prosperous condition. The first day of the year brought us a welcome snow, with indications of more, and consequently the farming interests are in excellent and most hopeful condition. The year's promise for the farming, horticultural, and livestock branches of business is of the best.

The year will no doubt see important developments in the irrigation question for Utah. The new State law to establish and record titles to water is in effect, and good progress is making in carrying out its provisions. Some reluctance is manifest to conforming with the requirements of the law and the regulations formulated in compliance therewith, but this reluctance is more because of misapprehension and inertia than for any other reason; some prefer to go on in the old uncertain, happy-go-lucky way rather than to reduce their claims for water to definite form and specific statement for legal record and figure. These difficulties, however, will no doubt pass away as the beneficial purposes and processes of the new law become better understood and are demonstrated.

The year will also, no doubt, see the inauguration of a great enterprise by the Federal Government under the National Irrigation law—the Utah Lake reservoir project. There is no doubt that in this is the making of a magnificent improvement, which would be of far greater immediate benefit than would be the opening of new and remote lands, for here is a great metropolis immediately at hand to supply a large market for products, and to enhance the value of the land whose productivity would be so materially enhanced by the added and reliable water supply. But the precise form of this improvement which the Government experts will recommend for it is not yet determined.

The outlook for Utah's mines is most cheerful. The output from them is at the maximum, and reducing plants of this valley, while ample for the ordinary ore-handling, are constantly being

added in order to take care of the added tonnage which experience and the good promise, lead the managers to expect.

In general trade and business, the outlook is excellent. The holiday trade has been great, and the merchants are in good spirits. The jobbers are handicapped by hostile discriminations in freights, but they are active in pushing trade; and there is no doubt whatever that with a just transportation rate, which would give us freight charges even as low as is made for the through haul to the coast, this city will become the great distributing point for the whole Basin and west mountain country, as it is bound to become.

The reports of the banks of this city for the past year, as corrected to date, show material and gratifying gains over the figures of last year. The loans and discounts increased from \$11,685,291 of the year before, to \$12,988,088, a gain of \$1,302,797; while the deposits increased from \$19,256,375 to \$20,738,432, a gain of \$1,482,056. Surely a handsome gain for a single year.

In the country at large the indications of revived trade and industry are unmistakable. The iron furnaces and foundries are starting up, a sure indication of general industrial activity. And while there has been a reduction of wages in many places, and in a number of industries, the absolute need of this was so evident that the workmen made no difficulty about it. There is also a quite general disposition to adjust labor difficulties, and to get at a modus vivendi between employers and employees. A striking evidence of this is the agreement of fifty thousand men in the building trades in New York City to go to work at once, on a scale that is to hold good for a year, with arbitration expressly stipulated for in case of disagreements.

The year just closed is correctly referred to by Bradstreet's agency as one of irregularity in speculation, distributive trade, and industry, and with severe strains at various points. It was the residuary legate of five years of great prosperity, and it had to face settlements on speculations, combinations, and "undigested securities" that were borne over into it from the former years. And it had troubles of its own, in strikes and in the exposure through the divulgements in connection with the Shipbuilding Combine which tended to throw discredit upon the combinations which up to that time had looked so fair, and to give a damaging blow to their securities and stocks. And this in turn affected the whole market to such an extent that nothing but the financial solidity and vitality of the country at large saved Wall street from a disastrous panic. And this strength still abides with the country, and is fruitful of hope and anticipation for the new year.

THE WAR NEWS.

It is not easy to get any intelligible idea of what is afoot in the incipient war between Russia and Japan. It is positively stated in Paris that Russia has sent a reply, refusing assent to Japan's proposals, and that this means war. It is given out quite as positively elsewhere that Russia has not made any reply yet, and may not make any at all. Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Envoy to Great Britain, seems to be rattled over the news, assuming that the Paris dispatch is true, and sending word to the world that he sees nothing in view but war.

On the other hand, in Berlin they scout at the idea of war, and Russia is said to be in a yielding mood, and inclined to go to almost any length in according to Japan's wishes, that will not jeopardize her own immediate and vital interests in the Orient. At the same time, it is explained, the warlike preparations by Japan make it difficult for Russia to yield with self-respect. All the world knows, however, and perfectly recognizes the fact, that unless Japan did make these preparations, Russia would glide along with her intrigues and encroachments until it would be too late for Japan to do anything at all to preserve her self-respect, or even her immediate and vital interests, or perhaps her independent national life.

In the meantime, the seriousness with which Great Britain views the situation is evidenced not only by the Marquis of Lansdowne, Foreign Secretary, in his giving up all hopes of peace, but in the dispatch of a formidable fleet from the Mediterranean to Chinese waters, comprising two heavy battleships, a large armored cruiser, and two other cruisers. In view of this great reinforcement of her naval power at the scene of the coming strife, it will be of interest to speculate whether Great Britain will actually and actively side openly with Japan and fight Russia. The alliance between Japan and Great Britain was thought at the time of its ratification to mean that in case of war with Russia, Japan and Great Britain would be found fighting side by side. If this should prove to be so, then Russia would no doubt be effectually checked, for in such case China would inevitably join Great Britain and Japan, and while China's war power is small, she would put in the field a force that would occupy the attention of a large number of Russian troops, and could aid in many ways.

It will be a savage war if it should come to war at all; and we suspect that Russia will have an ally that the world would hardly look for to support her; and that is the Korean nation and army; but this would be even less formidable than the Chinese army. All that can be said now, however, is that war ought to be sure if the talk is straight.

WHERE THEY GO TO CHURCH.

From the New York Press.

The richest man in the United States, probably in the world, notwithstanding the claims of Albert Belt, is a Baptist. The ablest financier-promoter is an Episcopalian. The most powerful banker is an Episcopalian. The leading railroad man is an Episcopalian. The most astute Democratic politician is a Roman Catholic. The foremost wholesale merchant is a Presbyterian. The most energetic, far-seeing Republican politician is an Episcopalian. The leading physician is a Methodist.

WOMEN FOR THEATER USHERS.

From the Washington Post.

The idea of employing women as ushers in a New York theater is the latest of our importations from London in dramatic matters. It seems wonderful that, merely as an attraction, no manager on this side of the Atlantic, except in a music hall here and there, has made the innovation.

SPICE.

Father—Doesn't Edith know what that young man's intentions are yet?
Mother—No. She says he is keeping her completely in the dark.
Father—What? My dear, when I was calling on you you wouldn't let me keep you in the dark until after I had declared myself.—Philadelphia Press.

Crawford—I suppose you're a big man in your wife's estimation.
Crabshaw—I must be. The slippers she made me for Christmas would fit a man twice my size.—Judge.

Fond Parent (to young hopeful)—Unless you keep your face and hands clean, your teeth brushed and look neat, the children of nice people won't have anything to do with you. Hopalong—But I had a goat and a wagon they would.—Judge.

Groom—And then there's that extra check for \$20 your father gave you.
Bride—O! but we can't use that. That's a special Emergency Fund.
Groom—How do you mean?
Bride—That's to pay for my divorce if it should ever be necessary.—Philadelphia Press.

What makes him look so ready-made?
"Because he borrowed my overcoat two weeks ago and hasn't returned it."—Detroit Free Press.

Friend—What are you going to do with all those presents? You have no family?
Smart—Going to send 'em to my friends in St. Louis. I'm going to the exposition next year.—Chicago News.

RHYMES OF THE DAY.

How does the necktie suit your taste,
And do the slippers fit?
Pray, is the diamond real or paste
Say, is the ring a hit?
Is there time to catch the train
By that new Christmas catch and chain?
—Chicago News.

The car was packed. She took my seat.
But such a look of rancor
Next moment crossed her face so sweet—
I had forgot to thank her!—Philadelphia Press.

The world's a monstrous apple,
Oh, come to Canada's shore,
Oh, Satan's wine to eat it up
An' there won't be no core!—New York Sun.

She fondly kissed the little face she
loved.
Then in the bed she placed the tiny
form.
And to her husband tenderly she said:
"Turn on the heat, so Fido can keep
warm."—Milwaukee Journal.

The horse on the racetrack
Is very speedy. Yet
He never seems to go as fast
As money that you bet.
—Washington Star.

THE POET'S PRAYER.
A poet prayed aloud for power to sing
To all mankind one sweet, soul-thrilling
song.
To bring forgetfulness of daily wrong,
And swift surcease of transient trials
bring.
O'er all the land his earnest prayer took
wing.
Soft echoing, here and there, amid the
throne,
From heart to heart, as gently borne
along.
As breeze-blown fragrance from the
flowers in spring.
And when the poet walked among his
fame:
Behold! they did great homage to his
name.
Gave thanks for endless good his
words had wrought,
And blessed the teachings of a master
mind.
Nor knew he whence came luster to his
name:
For his prayer had been the song
he sought!
—James Clarence Harvey in Smart Set.

Rheumatism
What is the use of telling the rheumatist that he feels as if his joints were being dislocated?
He knows that his sufferings are very much like the tortures of the rack.
What he wants to know is what will permanently cure his disease.
That, according to thousands of grateful testimonials, is
Hood's Sarsaparilla
It promptly neutralizes the acid in the blood on which the disease depends, completely eliminates it, and strengthens the system against its return. Try Hood's.

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The product of our factory. Soft and stiff fronts, the values of which run from \$2.50 to \$3.00. Saturday sale price \$1.85
See window.
We direct attention to a line of fine French flannel shirts of \$3.50 value which is a special at \$2.75.

Half Price--Important Millinery Reduction

From \$2.00 to \$35.00.
Comprising the Entire Line of All Trimmed Hats.

TOILET GOODS SPECIALS

Corsage bouquet, our finest hard water soap, which sells at 75c a box, will be sold today at 40c a box, or, per cake, 15c.
We are showing a nice line of bulk paper, in linen, bond and satin finish, which sells regularly at 35c a quire, including a package of envelopes, for 25c.
A quality similar to the above, in note size, for children, is reduced from 25c to 15c for a quire of paper and a package of envelopes.

HALF PRICES IN PYROGRAPHY

All pyrographic pieces, which are ready to be burned, are reduced today only to one-half prices.

FINISHED PILLOW COVERS

In blue and pink stripe, are reduced from 65c to 45c.

UMBRELLAS

Umbrellas of splendid quality, black gloria covers, steel rods and automatic snaps, with pretty over handles, which sell regularly at \$2.50, can be had today only at \$1.95.

HAND-MADE COLLARS AT HALF PRICES

The line is very pretty and an unusual opportunity is offered.

SATURDAY AND SATURDAY EVENING SPECIALS

CHILDREN'S COTTON FLEECE LINED UNDERWEAR, in sizes from 20 to 24, which sells regularly from 20c to 25c, can be had today for, per garment, 15c.
Sizes from 26 to 32, which sells from 30c to 45c, can be bought today, per garment, for 25c.
WOMEN'S BLACK COTTON, SEAMLESS HOSE, regular at 15c—today 3 pair for 25c.

Golf Glove Special, 75c values for 45c

The Shoe Sale, with One-Fourth to One-Half Prices, is still under interesting headway.

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Moderate Prices for Everybody.

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GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.



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And now that it is time to be thinking about getting them ready for school again.

We presume there will be many things wanted.

Perhaps a suit or overcoat, or maybe just a pair of extra pants, cap, sweater, waist, gloves or stockings.

In any event you should come here today and attend to their needs, whether great or small.

We've suits from \$1.50 upward, knee pants 50c upward, caps 25c upward, sweaters 50c upward, gloves 15c upward, stockings 25c upward.

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ORDERS BY MAIL PROMPTLY FILLED.

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And let the advent of the New Year also the advent of a new piano in your home.

We Meet Any Price

Offered when quality is considered, are not loaded up with a lot of cheap instruments to mark up and then cut 50% off. It's not our way of doing business.

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